

Super Safari's Preschool Instructors



Faith Gullickson has enjoyed working with children for the past 5 years. She started as a preschool teacher and then became a dance teacher in 2012, working with ages 2 all the way through youth. She is now the assistant director at her studio and continues to teach Ballet. She has an A.S. degree in Early Childhood Education. She enjoys spending time with family and friends as well as dancing, reading, and watching movies. She loves working with preschoolers because she gets the privilege to be a part of each child's life. She believes to be able to make an impact in their minds and hearts is a very important job. Faith says, "Yes, my part is small, but that small part is huge!"

Work location:
**Giraffes at Murphy &
Cheetahs at Las Palmas**



Papiya Saha has been teaching with the Super Safari Preschool program for 6+ years. Papiya has her B.A. in History and has completed 24 units in Child Development and continues to enrich her knowledge in the field of Child Development. She enjoys working with preschool children because it helps to build their self-confidence through a curious learning environment. Papiya wants to give children a chance to explore their surroundings because it'll help develop their interests. Papiya's favorite color is earthy green.

Work location:
Tigers at Ortega Park



Marie Bond is a mother of five children. She speaks three languages and holds a B.A. in Journalism. Marie has been with our preschool program for the last 10 years. She loves to meeting people from all over the world. "Every time the class meets," Marie says "It will be a cultural event. The diversity of all the people who live here is best reflected in our schools." Marie believes children are the best channel to reach our communities and bring understanding and harmony. Marie's favorite color is green and she loves the movie The Sound of Music. She also loves listening to classical music and exploring nature.

Work location:
Tigers at Serra Park



Work location:
Giraffes at Murphy

Mindy Leonardi was born in Southern California, and moved to the Bay Area in 2013. She earned her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Liberal Studies, as well as an Elementary School Teaching Credential, from Cal Poly Pomona. She has also completed 16 Early Childhood Education Units, and has taught in several preschool classrooms. She has been married for 5 years and loves spending time with her husband and their 10 nieces and nephews. Mindy loves working with preschool-aged children because they are always so excited to learn new things, and they make every day so much fun! She loves doing crafts and reading stories. Her favorite color is blue, and her favorite animal is the giraffe. Mindy's hobbies include sewing, painting, playing piano, and traveling to new places.



Work location:
Giraffes & Cheetahs
at Las Palmas Park

Krupa Shah was born in India and moved to California in 2000. She holds a Bachelor of Commerce in Accounts and has earned a Bachelor's Degree in Classical Indian Dance. In addition, she has completed Interior designing courses and completed 34 units in Early Childhood Development. Krupa has been in the Early Childhood Development field since 2010. She is married and has two children whom she loves spending time with. Krupa enjoys teaching, singing, dancing, playing piano, cooking, and going to different places with family and friends. She also teaches dance, music and Indian language as a volunteer in Temple. Krupa enjoys teaching children because it is the most rewarding job. Not only do the children keep her young, but she believes, no two days are ever the same and every day is the learning day.



Work location:
Tigers at Ortega Park

René Huerta has been working with children for 14 years. She started as a dance teacher while she worked toward her B.S. degree in Recreation (Minor in Child Development) from San Jose State University. Since graduation, she has worked at various preschools and after school programs around the Bay Area, as well as, spent three semesters abroad as a graduate intern working at Military Child Development Centers in Germany and Italy. She has been working with the City of Sunnyvale since 2009 and loves working with the preschool age group because each moment is a learning experience and every day is a new adventure. René's favorite color is bright green!



Susmita Bhattacharyya has been teaching preschool for 5 years. She has her Bachelor's Degree in Geography and holds an Early Childhood Education Certificate. Susmita's favorite colors are light yellow and ivory. Susmita loves to work with preschool aged children because she wants to offer them the opportunities to explore their surroundings and develop new skills. She believes every child is unique and continues to learn so many new things from them. Susmita's favorite activity to do with the children is arts and crafts as well as circle time.

Work location:
Giraffes at Las Palmas
& Lion Cubs at Serra



Vivian Kim was born in Korea and moved to the U.S. in 1986. She's married with 3 children. She has been teaching preschool since 1991 and is our lead teacher at Serra Park. Vivian holds a Bachelor's Degree in Math with a teaching Credential. Vivian is currently taking courses in Special Education. Vivian's favorite colors are yellow and purple. During her spare time, she enjoys going on hikes. Vivian's favorite activity to do with the children is arts and crafts and music.

Work location:
Tigers & Lion Cubs
at Serra Park